

Amendments to the Drawings

Attached hereto is 1 replacement sheets of a formal drawing for FIG. 21A,
corresponding to the drawing objected to in the *Ex parte Quayle* Office Action.

Remarks

Claims 1-4, 6-11, 13-16, 18, 19, and 21 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 13-16, and 20 being the independent claims. These changes do not introduce new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

In the *Ex parte Quayle* Office Action dated December 29, 2006, claims 16, 18 and 19 are indicated to contain allowable subject matter. Claims 1-4, 6-11, 13-15 and 21 are objected to because of various informalities. FIG. 21A is objected to for formalities.

Objections to the Drawings

The attached sheet of drawings for FIG. 21A includes changes to the drawings filed November, 26 2001 in reply to a Notice to File Missing Parts. FIG. 21A has been amended to remove label "Soft Decisions" from element 1906. The element was referred to in the specification as "equalized analog data signal." Applicants removed the label for clarity and consistency.

Applicants have amended paragraphs [0138]-[0143] of the present application for consistency of naming and numbering conventions. In paragraph [0138]-[0139], "measuring module 2002" has been changed to --difference detector 2102-- to properly reflect the labeled element of FIG. 21A. In paragraphs [0138]-[0142], "the equalized analog data signal 104" has been renumbered 1906 to properly reflect the numbering of FIG 21A. Similarly in paragraphs [0138] and [0143], "ADC 2004" has been renumbered 2104. Accordingly, Applicants request the objection to the drawings be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Allowable Claims and Claim Objections

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 16, 18 and 19. Claims 1, 6, 10, 13-15 and 21 have been amended to correct minor informalities specified by

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the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants request that the objections to claims 1, 6, 10, 13-15 and 21 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claims 2-4 and 11 depend from claim 1. The objection to claims 2-4 and 11 is rendered moot by amended claim 1. Applicants therefore believe claims 2-4 and 11 are in condition for allowance. Claims 7-9 depend from claim 6. The objection to claims 7-9 is rendered moot by amended claim 6. Applicants therefore believe claims 7-9 are in condition for allowance. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to claims 1-4, 6-11, 13-15 and 21 be reconsidered and withdrawn and that claims 1-4, 6-11, 13-15 and 21 be passed to allowance.

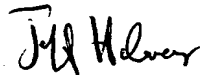
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 3/12/07

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